

## INFORMATIVE DIGEST

The production and use of recycled water is currently regulated by state law and administrative regulations and requirements. Pursuant to section 13521 of the California Water Code, the Department of Health Services (Department) is mandated to establish statewide recycling criteria for each varying use of recycled water where such use involves the protection of public health. In addition, the use of the term “recycling” in this section provides the authority for the proposed substitution of terms in the attached regulations: “Reclamation” and “reclaimed” have been replaced with “recycling” and “recycled”. The State Regional Water Quality Control Boards prescribe recycling requirements for individual water recycling projects. The requirements issued by the boards must include, or be in conformance with, the recycling criteria adopted by the Department.

The existing recycling criteria were adopted by the Department on October 15, 1977. Since that time, the use of recycled water has expanded significantly. Furthermore, technical and health effects studies, have been conducted and advances in treatment technology have been demonstrated. Also during this period, the increasing need for water conservation and the increase in potable water demand have created a greater need for more recycling and reuse of wastewater.

Pursuant to the authority granted by section 13521 of the Water Code, the Department has developed proposed revisions to the existing recycling regulations. These revisions are intended to expand the range of allowable uses of recycled water, establish criteria for those new uses, and clarify some of the ambiguity contained in the existing regulations.

Specifically, the Department proposes the following changes to title 22, division 4 of the California Code of Regulations:

1. Repeal existing section 60301 and replace with proposed sections 60301.100 through 60301.920. The purpose of this change is to reorganize this section with new section numbers, repeal obsolete definitions, add new definitions for terms used in the proposed regulations, and reorder the definitions alphabetically.
2. Repeal sections 60303 through 60319 and replace with proposed sections 60302 through 60306. These sections reorganize existing uses and requirements, add new allowable uses, and add language relating to the use of recycled water for industrial cooling and establishing specific requirements.
3. Adopt a new article 4 section 60310 establishing requirements for specific areas of use of recycled water.
4. Adopt a new article 5 commencing with section 60313 establishing requirements for use of recycled water in dual plumbing systems.
5. Repeal existing section 60321 relating to sampling and analysis and replace with proposed section 60321 which has better clarity.

In addition, the Department proposes to amend section 7604 of title 17, California Code of Regulations to modify the type of backflow prevention devices needed in order to be consistent with the dual plumbing requirements proposed in article 4, division 4 of title 22, California Code of Regulations.